

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 15808 031753Z

47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 STRE-00 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6352

INFO USDA WASHDC

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, UR, US

SUBJECT: SOVIET MEDIA SILENCE ON BILATERAL GRAIN AGREEMENT

REF: LENINGRAD 1669

1. SINCE SIGNATURE OF THE BILATERAL GRAIN AGREEMENT AND SUBSEQUENT WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT TWO WEEKS AGO, SOVIET CENTRAL PRESS HAS NEITHER PUBLISHED TEXT OF AGREEMENT NOR ALLUDED TO CONCLUSION OF ACCORD IN ANY MANNER. ALTHOUGH EMBASSY'S COVERAGE OF PUBLIC LECTURER IN MOSCOW DURING THIS PERIOD HAS BEEN INCOMPLETE, NO INDICATION OF DISCUSSION OF SOVIET DOMESTIC CROP AGGREGATES OR MENTION OF GRAIN IMPORTS HAS COME TO OUR ATTENTION. INFORMATION ON CROPS AVAILABLE TO GENERAL PUBLICHERE THUS APPEARS SCANTIER THAN THAT MADE KNOWN IN LENINGRAD (REFTE).

2. ON OCTOBER 23 EMBASSY NEWS BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT BASED ON USIA WIRELESS BULLETIN TEXT WAS DISSEMINATED TO ALL CUSTOMARY ADDRESSES, INCLUDING NUMEROUS SOVIET MINISTRIES AS WELL AS MOSCOW NEWS ORGANIZATIONS. FROM COUNTERPARTS
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 15808 031753Z

IN UNION-REPUBLIC MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND PRO-

CUREMENT AGRICULTURE ATTACHE HAS-RECEIVED CONGRATULATORY
COMMENTS ON GRAIN AGREEMENT, BUT ASKED WHEN TEXT OF
AGREEMENT WILL BE PUBLISHED, AGATT'S CONTACTS IN
SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' HAVE REPLIED THAT "IT HAS NOT YET
BEEN RECEIVED."

3. COMMENT: FACT THAT NO AGGREGATE DATA ON TOTAL SOVIET 1975
HARVEST HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED HAS UNDOUBTEDLY MADE
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF AGREEMENT AWKWARD FOR SOVIETS,
ESPECIALLY BECAUSE USUAL FANFARE TRUMPETING SUCH AN
ACCORD AS IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD ON PATH OF DETENTE
WOULD GIVE RISE TO UNWELCOME SPECULATION ABOUT DOMESTIC
CROP SITUATION.
MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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